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Committee on Information
Thirty-fourth session
23 April-4 May 2012
Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session

Draft report

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 34/182, the General Assembly decided to maintain the Committee to Review United Nations Public Information Policies and Activities, established by its resolution 33/115 C, which would be known as the Committee on Information, and to increase its membership from 41 to 66. In section I, paragraph 2, of resolution 34/182, the Assembly requested the Committee:

> "(a) To continue to examine United Nations public information policies and activities, in the light of the evolution of international relations, particularly during the past two decades, and of the imperatives of the establishment of the new international economic order and of a new world information and communication order;
>
> "(b) To evaluate and follow up the efforts made and the progress achieved by the United Nations system in the field of information and communications;
>
> "(c) To promote the establishment of a new, more just and more effective world information and communication order intended to strengthen peace and international understanding and based on the free circulation and wider and better balanced dissemination of information and to make recommendations thereon to the General Assembly"

and requested the Committee and the Secretary-General to report to it at its thirty-fifth session.

2. The General Assembly, from its thirty-sixth to sixty-fifth sessions, took note of the reports of the Committee and adopted consensus resolutions. At its sixty-sixth session, the Assembly took note of the report of the Committee and adopted consensus resolutions 66/81 A and B.

3. Currently, the Committee is composed of the following Member States:

Algeria	Benin
Angola	Brazil
Antigua and Barbuda	Bulgaria
Argentina	Burkina Faso
Armenia	Burundi
Austria	Cape Verde
Azerbaijan	Chile
Bangladesh	China
Belarus	Colombia
Belgium	Congo
Belize	Costa Rica

Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Gabon
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Guatemala
Guinea
Guyana
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Lebanon
Liberia
Libya
Luxembourg
Madagascar
Malta
Mexico
Monaco
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Nepal
Netherlands
Niger
Nigeria
Pakistan
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Romania

Russian Federation	Thailand
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Togo
Saudi Arabia	Trinidad and Tobago
Senegal	Tunisia
Sierra Leone	Turkey
Singapore	Ukraine
Slovakia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Solomon Islands	Northern Ireland
Somalia	United Republic of Tanzania
South Africa	United States of America
Spain	Uruguay
Sri Lanka	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Sudan	Viet Nam
Suriname	Yemen
Switzerland	Zambia
Syrian Arab Republic	Zimbabwe

II. Organizational questions

A. Opening of the session

4. The organizational meeting of the thirty-fourth session of the Committee on Information was held on 23 April 2012 at United Nations Headquarters. The session was opened by the Chair of the Committee, Eduardo Ulibarri (Costa Rica).

B. Election of officers

5. Following the departure of Stéphane Crouzat (France), Vice-Chair, and Moses Sayela Walubita (Zambia), Vice-Chair, at the end of their tours of duty at Headquarters, Guillaume Dabouis (France) and Chibaula D. Silwamba (Zambia) were elected to serve as Vice-Chairs for the remainder of the 2011-2012 term. The officers of the Committee on Information for the period 2011-2012 are as follows:

Chair:

Eduardo Ulibarri (Costa Rica)

Vice-Chairs:

Guillaume Dabouis (France)
Chibaula D. Silwamba (Zambia)
Gheorghe Leuca (Republic of Moldova)

Rapporteur:
Mohammad Reza Sahraei (Islamic Republic of Iran)

C. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

6. At its organizational meeting, on 23 April, the Committee adopted the following agenda and programme of work (A/AC.198/2012/1):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work.
4. Admission of new members.
5. Statement by the Chair.
6. Statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information.
7. General debate.
8. Consideration of reports submitted by the Secretary-General.
9. Open-ended working group of the Committee on Information.
10. Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

7. The Committee held its general debate from 23 to 25 April 2012. On 23 April, in the afternoon, the Department of Public Information, led by its Acting Head, held an interactive dialogue with Member States.

8. For its consideration of agenda item 7, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information: strategic communications services (A/AC.198/2012/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information: news services (A/AC.198/2012/3);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information: outreach services (A/AC.198/2012/4);

(d) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 (A/67/6 (Prog. 24)).

D. Observers

9. Oman took part in the session as an observer. The Holy See, Palestine and the World Meteorological Organization also participated in the session as observers.